

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

First Congregational Church of Austin

AND/OR COMMON

Greater Holy Temple of God in Christ

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

5701 West Midway Place

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Illinois

VICINITY OF
CODE
17COUNTY
CookCODE
031**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION | <input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

~~The Catholic Bishop of Chicago~~GREATER HOLY TEMPLE
OF GOD IN CHRIST
(see above)

--- since '73.

STREET & NUMBER

~~211 E. Chicago Ave.~~

CITY, TOWN

~~Chicago~~

VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

County Building, 118 North Clark St.

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

STATE

Illinois

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Illinois Historic Structures Survey

DATE

1975

--- FEDERAL STATE --- COUNTY --- LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Department of Conservation

CITY, TOWN

Springfield

STATE

Illinois

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The First Congregational Church is located on the southwest corner of Midway Place and Waller in Chicago. At the northwest corner of the intersection is St. Mark's Episcopal Church. On the east side of Waller (Midway Place ends at Waller) are apartment buildings. Extending three blocks west on Midway are many Victorian homes.

The First Congregational Church is one story high on a raised basement. It is built of yellow-beige Roman brick trimmed with stone. The entrance is on Midway Place and consists of a tall central section between two symmetrical lower masses on each side. The cavernous entry at ground level is framed by posts and lintels which together express the interlocking vertical-horizontal theme of the design. Its two massive piers are topped by large planters. The side walls are composed of vertically-oriented leaded-glass windows separated by thick brick piers which together reinforce the vertical theme of the sides. The rectangular masses of the side aisles have flat roofs but the central nave is covered with a flattened hip roof.

One enters through low entrance doors into a vestibule with a staircase at each end (east wall and west wall). These stairs lead down to the social and school rooms in the basement and up to the nave of the church. The stairs to the second floor rise to a narthex-like room lighted by a large leaded-glass window at the rear of the church.

The auditorium is divided by two aisles into three rows of pews. The sanctuary and altar are at the south end of the auditorium. On the east is the pastor's study. Opposite, on the south, is a service stairway. The nave proper is quite tall and lighted by a leaded-glass skylight while the lower side aisles are illuminated by leaded-glass windows. The interior plaster walls are sand colored trimmed in dark-stained wood and yellow-beige brick.

The interior has been changed by removing the original pews and installing newer pews in two rows with three aisles. The original cube and spheroid ceiling lights have disappeared. The sanctuary has been changed in minor ways. The basement is extensively remodeled. At the rear of the church is an addition built in 1959.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Drummond, Architect

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The First Congregational Church of Austin is important as an early work by one of Frank Lloyd Wright's best students. Not only does the church demonstrate in its artistic qualities the design capabilities of William Drummond, but it also shows how well a Wright student could capture the essence of his master's modern style. As Wright's students were not often given the opportunity of designing buildings other than residences, this church is especially instructive and significant as an uncommon building type by a Prairie architect.

HISTORY

The First Congregational Church was designed by William Drummond in 1904 and built in 1905. It was sold in 1925 to the Church of the Seventh Day Adventists. From them it passed in 1958 to the Catholic Bishop of Chicago. The Our Lady of Lebanon Roman Catholic Church used the building from 1958 to 1973 when the Greater Holy Temple of God in Christ occupied the building as they still do today.

William Drummond was born on March 28, 1876 in Newark, New Jersey. He learned the building trades from his father who was a general contractor. He spent two years at Austin High School (in Chicago), and took several courses at the University of Illinois School of Architecture. Then he spent several months working for Louis Sullivan. In 1899 he was hired by Frank Lloyd Wright and worked for him until 1909. He was chief draftsman and project manager for many of Wright's commissions to which he contributed many ideas. He made the drawings for the Larkin Building (destroyed) which was built by his father, the Cheney house, the Isabel Roberts house and the Bradley house and the Hickox houses. Many of his drawings were used in the Wasmuth portfolio of Wright's work which was published in 1910. He formed a partnership with Louis Guenzel that lasted from 1912 to 1915. Guenzel did the construction while Drummond did the designing. After the first world war Drummond turned to historic designs in order to secure commissions and after the depression he worked for other architects.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

H. Allen Brooks, The Prairie School, 1972

Siegel, A., Chicago's Famous Buildings, 1965, pp. 150-151

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 16 | 436290 | 4637490 |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C | | | |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| D | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME TITLE

George M. Beilke and Paul E. Sprague

June 1, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

58 S. Third Avenue

TELEPHONE

627-6342

CITY OR TOWN

Lombard

STATE

Illinois

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS.

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Director, Illinois Department of Conservation

DATE

1-27-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

1. Name of Site:

Common

Historic First Congregational Church of Austin

2. Location:

Street and Number SW corner Waller & Midway Township Section
City or Town Chicago Zip Code Range 1/4 Section
County Cook

3. Classification:

Category (check one) Integrity (check one)
 District Building Altered Unaltered
 Site Structure Moved Original Site

4. Ownership:

Status (check one)

Private Occupied
 Public Unoccupied
 Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

Yes Restricted Unrestricted No

Present Use (check one or more)

Agricultural Industrial Religious
 Commercial Military Scientific
 Educational Museum Transportation
 Entertainment Park Other
 Government Private Residence

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's Name Phone Number
Street and Number
City or Town
State County Zip Code

6. Description:

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated
 Ruins Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? Yes No ?

ARCHITECTURE

7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- Archeological Site (Pre-Columbian)
- Archeological Site (Post-Columbian to 1673)
- French Influence (1673-1780)
- Illinois Frontier (1780-1818)
- Illinois Early (1818-1850)
- Illinois Middle (1850-1900)
- Illinois Late (1900-present)
- Famous People (give names & dates)

8. Specific Date: 1908

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- Aboriginal (historic) Literature
- Aboriginal (pre-historic) Military
- Agriculture Music
- Architecture Political
- Art Religion/Philosophy
- Commerce Science
- Communication Sculpture
- Conservation Social/Humanitarian
- Education Theater
- Engineering Transportation
- Industry Urban Planning
- Invention Other (specify)
- Landscape Architecture

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates)

Use additional sheets if necessary. Designed by Drummond & Guenzel. Chicago Landmarks Comm. Landmark

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: _____ Date: 6/23/75

Organization: _____ Phone: _____

Street and Number: _____

City or Town: _____ County: _____ Zip Code _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

